CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In this Response Claims 12 and 19 have been amended. Claims 22-60 have been added. Claims 1-11 (canceled).

12. (currently amended) A method of delivering a drug through a membrane junction or a cell membrane comprising:

delivering a permeabilizing reagent to a membrane junction or a cell membrane in a concentration sufficient to increase the permeability of the membrane junction or cell membrane; and

delivering a drug to the membrane junction or cell membrane, ~~whereby~~wherein the drug travels through the membrane junction or cell membrane.

13. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is delivered by a stent and/or a catheter.

14. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the drug is delivered by a stent and/or a catheter.

15. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is a solution including a solute selected from the group consisting of glucose, mannose, maltose, dextrose, fructose, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, sodium phosphate, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone and amino acids.

16. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of iminodiacetic acid, nitriloacetic acid, ethylenediaminomonoacetic acid, ethylenediaminodiacetic acid, ethylenediaminotetraacetic acid, sodium taurodihydrofusidate, sodium salicylate, sodium caprate, sodium glycocholate, cholylsarcosine, isopropyl myristate, partially hydrolyzed triglycerides, fatty-acid sugar derivatives, oleic acid derivatives, histamine, bradykinin and its conformational analogs, tumor

necrosis factor alpha, nitroglycerine, sodium nitroprusside, diethylamine sodium, 3-morpholinosydnonimine, S-nitroso-N-acetyl-penicillamine, and vascular endothelial growth factor and combinations thereof.

Claims 17 and 18 (canceled).

19. (currently amended) A method of local drug delivery, comprising:

locally applying a permeabilizing reagent to a selected area of a body tissue[[,]]; and

locally applying a drug to the body tissue.

20. (original) The method of Claim 19, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is applied before or concomitantly with the drug.

21. (original) The method of Claim 19, wherein the local application of the permeabilizing reagent and the drug is via a stent.

Please add the following New Claims:

22. (new) The method of Claim 19, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent.

23. (new) The method of Claim 19, additionally including applying a P-glycoprotein system blocker.

24. (new) The method of Claim 23, wherein the application of the P-glycoprotein system blocker follows application of the permeabilizing reagent.

25. (new) The method of Claim 23, wherein the P-glycoprotein system blocker is selected from the group consisting of Pluronic P-85®, verapamil, disulfiram and antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a messenger RNA encoding P-glycoprotein and combinations thereof.

26. (new) The method of Claim 19, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of antineoplastic, antimitotic, antiinflammatory, antiplatelet, antiallergic, anticoagulant, antifibrin, antithrombin, antiproliferative, antioxidant, antimigratory, antiextracellular matrix deposition, pro-apoptotic, nitric oxide donor, pro-angiogenic, and pro-arteriogenic substances and combinations thereof.

27. (new) A method of delivering a drug through a membrane junction or a cell membrane comprising:

delivering a hyperosmotic solution, a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and/or a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent to a membrane junction or a cell membrane in a concentration sufficient to increase the permeability of the membrane junction or cell membrane; and

delivering a drug to the membrane junction or cell membrane, wherein the drug travels through the membrane junction or cell membrane.

28. (new) A method of local drug delivery, comprising:

locally applying a hyperosmotic solution, a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and/or a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent to a selected area of a body tissue; and

locally applying a drug to the body tissue.

29. (new) A method of local drug delivery, comprising:

locally applying a P-glycoprotein system blocker to a selected area of a body tissue; and

locally applying a drug to the body tissue.

30. (new) The method of Claim 29, further comprising locally applying a permeabilizing reagent to the body tissue.

31. (new) The method of Claim 30, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is applied before the P-glycoprotein system blocker.

32. (new) The method of Claim 30, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisiting of an osmotic agent, a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent.

33. (new) The method of Claim 29, wherein the P-glycoprotein system blocker is selected from the group consisting of Pluronic P-85®, verapamil, disulfiram and antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a messenger RNA encoding P-glycoprotein and combinations thereof.

34. (new) The method of Claim 29, wherein the P-glycoprotein system blocker or the drug is carried by a stent.

35. (new) A method of delivering a drug through a membrane junction or a cell membrane comprising:

delivering a hyperosmotic solution to a membrane junction or a cell membrane in a concentration sufficient to increase the permeability of the membrane junction or cell membrane; and

delivering a drug to the membrane junction or cell membrane, wherein the drug travels through the membrane junction or cell membrane.

36. (new) The method of Claim 35, wherein the hyperosmotic solution is delivered by a catheter.

37. (new) The method of Claim 35, wherein the drug is delivered by a stent and/or a catheter.

38. (new) The method of Claim 35, wherein the hyperosmotic solution includes a solute selected from the group consisting of glucose, mannose, maltose, dextrose, fructose, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, sodium phosphate, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone and amino acids.

39. (new) A method of local drug delivery, comprising:

positioning a stent at a selected area of a body tissue, the stent carrying a permeabilizing reagent; and

locally applying a drug to the body tissue.

40. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of iminodiacetic acid, nitriloacetic acid, ethylenediaminomonoacetic acid, ethylenediaminodiacetic acid, ethylenediaminotetraacetic acid, sodium taurodihydrofusidate, sodium salicylate, sodium caprate, sodium glycocholate, cholylsarcosine, isopropyl myristate, partially hydrolyzed triglycerides, fatty-acid sugar derivatives, oleic acid derivatives, histamine, bradykinin and its conformational analogs, tumor necrosis factor alpha, nitroglycerine, sodium nitroprusside, diethylamine sodium, 3-morpholinosydnonimine, S-nitroso-N-acetyl-penicillamine, and vascular endothelial growth factor and combinations thereof.

41. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the stent is positioned before or during the application of the drug.

42. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the local application of the drug is via a stent.

43. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent.

44. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the stent additionally carries a P-glycoprotein system blocker.

45. (new) The method of Claim 44, wherein the P-glycoprotein system blocker is selected from the group consisting of Pluronic P-85®, verapamil, disulfiram and antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a messenger RNA encoding P-glycoprotein and combinations thereof.

46. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of antineoplastic, antimitotic, antiinflammatory, antiplatelet, antiallergic, anticoagulant, antifibrin, antithrombin, antiproliferative, antioxidant, antimigratory, antiextracellular matrix deposition, pro-apoptotic, nitric oxide donor, pro-angiogenic, and pro-arteriogenic substances and combinations thereof.

47. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is carried by a polymeric coating on the stent.

48. (new) The method of Claim 39, wherein the stent additionally carries the drug.

49. (new) The method of Claim 48, wherein the stent carries the permeabilizing reagent and the drug in a coating, wherein the coating includes the permeabilizing reagent in a first layer and the drug in a second layer.

50. (new) A method of local drug delivery, comprising:

positioning a stent at a selected area of a body tissue, the stent carrying a drug; and

locally applying a permeabilizing reagent to the body tissue.

51. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of iminodiacetic acid, nitriloacetic acid, ethylenediaminomonoacetic acid, ethylenediaminodiacetic acid, ethylenediaminotetraacetic acid, sodium

taurodihydrofusidate, sodium salicylate, sodium caprate, sodium glycocholate, cholylsarcosine, isopropyl myristate, partially hydrolyzed triglycerides, fatty-acid sugar derivatives, oleic acid derivatives, histamine, bradykinin and its conformational analogs, tumor necrosis factor alpha, nitroglycerine, sodium nitroprusside, diethylamine sodium, 3-morpholinosydnonimine, S-nitroso-N-acetyl-penicillamine, and vascular endothelial growth factor and combinations thereof.

52. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is applied before or during positioning of the stent.

53. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the local application of the permeabilizing reagent is via a stent.

54. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the permeabilizing reagent is selected from the group consisting of a calcium ion chelator, a surfactant, and a receptor-mediated permeabilizing reagent.

55. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the stent additionally carries a P-glycoprotein system blocker.

56. (new) The method of Claim 55, wherein the P-glycoprotein system blocker is selected from the group consisting of Pluronic P-85®, verapamil, disulfiram and antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a messenger RNA encoding P-glycoprotein and combinations thereof.

57. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of antineoplastic, antimitotic, antiinflammatory, antiplatelet, antiallergic, anticoagulant, antifibrin, antithrombin, antiproliferative, antioxidant, antimigratory, antiextracellular matrix deposition, pro-apoptotic, nitric oxide donor, pro-angiogenic, and pro-arteriogenic substances and combinations thereof.

58. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the drug is carried by a polymeric coating on the stent.

59. (new) The method of Claim 50, wherein the stent additionally carries the permeabilizing reagent.

60. (new) The method of Claim 59, wherein the stent carries the permeabilizing reagent and the drug in a coating, wherein the coating includes the permeabilizing reagent in a first layer and the drug in a second layer.